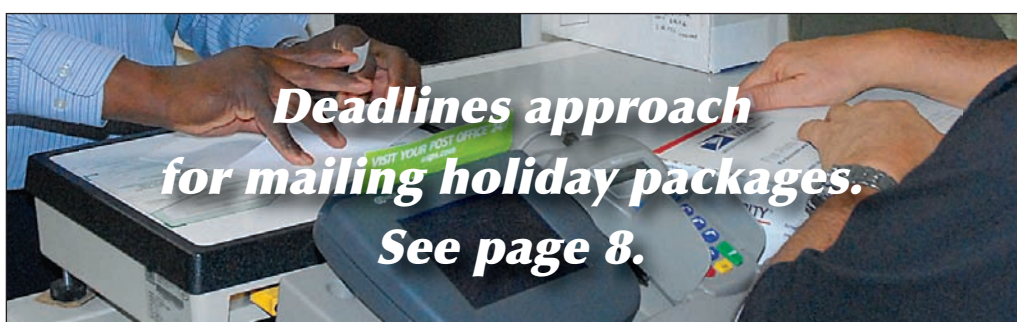


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**Deadlines approach
for mailing holiday packages.
See page 8.**

**Volunteers needed
for Community FIRST
focus groups. See page 6.**

The Fort Jackson Leader

Thursday, December 4, 2008

Published for the Fort Jackson/Columbia, S.C. Community

www.fortjacksonleader.com



Graphic Provided by Balfour Beatty

Artist's depiction of the new and renovated housing under way at Fort Jackson through the Residential Community Initiative. The Balfour Beatty Communities project, which is valued at over \$160 million, includes the demolition of 916 units and the building of 610 units. A groundbreaking ceremony for the new housing is set for 2 p.m., Dec. 17 at 5790 Brown Ave.

Home, sweet home

Housing project financing completed; work to begin

Crystal Lewis Brown
Leader Staff

For rent: Two-story duplex in Columbia with four bedrooms and 2 1/2 bathrooms. Amenities include an open floor plan, upgraded flooring, ceiling fans and plenty of storage. The neighborhood is close to work, and offers an updated 4,300-square foot community center complete with meeting room, kitchen, computer room and game room.

Although this may sound like an advertisement for a luxury townhouse or condominium, it is actually an example of what the Fort Jackson community can expect in its on-post housing in the near future.

On Oct. 30, Balfour Beatty Communities finished the final phase in securing financing, which means the above renovations are even closer to becoming a reality.

The company received \$168 million for the

privately-financed military housing project's initial development period. Fort Jackson is the 16th military housing project and 43rd military base for Balfour Beatty.

Emma Watson, Fort Jackson Residential Communities Initiative director, said it was important to be sure Fort Jackson received the maximum funding necessary to bring the housing up-to-date. The financing, she said, will provide for nicer — and larger — housing options

for those wanting to live on post.

"Once we have new housing come on-line, they will all have the same amenities they can get off-post," she said. "You don't necessarily have that right now."

James Harper, Balfour Beatty project director, agrees.

"The main thing is to bring the level and

See **RCI** Page 3

Fort Jackson SSI commander earns first star

Mike A. Glasch
Leader Staff

The commander of Fort Jackson's Soldier Support Institute will reach a career milestone Friday when he is promoted to the rank of brigadier general.

Col. Richard Mustion first learned in July that he was nominated by President George Bush to be promoted.

"I was very honored and humbled by the nomination," Mustion said. "It's more of a reflection of the great teams I have had the pleasure to serve with as opposed to anything I have done individually."

Mustion was first commissioned as a second lieutenant in Adjutant General Corps in 1981. He admits that at the time becoming a general officer was not one of his long-term goals.

"When I was first commissioned I thought I would stay in for four years and then find something else to do," Mustion said. "The four-year point came and went, and I never realized it went by because I joined this team called the Army that I really love and have had great experiences with. I've always felt a sense of belonging and a sense of commitment and stuck with it. I guess four years hasn't come and gone yet."

Throughout his career, the 27-year veteran has served in com-

mand and staff positions in the United States, Germany, Korea and Iraq. Mustion considers his work with training Soldiers while serving as a company, battalion and brigade commander as his biggest achievement.

"Being able to lead and develop Soldiers so that they are successful on the battlefield has been the greatest accomplishment of my career," he said. "It's not so much what I



Mustion

See **Mustion** Page 4

COMMANDERS' CORNER

From the Commanding General

Drill sergeants remain a consistent BCT cornerstone

Drill sergeants are the backbone of Fort Jackson. No bones about it. There is no secret about that.

There is also no secret about how drill sergeants turn young men and women into Warriors. It begins with hard work that never lets up.

We've known since late 1962, when the Secretary of the Army directed a study of Army recruit training, that training Soldiers is a tough business. The survey revealed long working hours, difficult and demanding work and lack of free time for family concerns.

Every training day here starts with a drill sergeant sounding a wake-up call and ends with the sounding of "lights out."

Days are long. Weekends are short or almost non-existent. And the requirements are rigid. Only the best NCOs are selected for the mission, because drill sergeants are everything to Basic Combat Training Soldiers.

As one of our cadre so eloquently describes his mission:



Brig. Gen. May

"As a drill sergeant, you're everything: You're the teacher, instructor; you're the mom, dad, grandpa, grandma and counselor — everything."

He's right, because it takes "everything" — and perhaps more, if that's possible — for these elite NCOs to do the demanding job they do. We entrust them to develop our Soldiers so they will become Army Strong, as well as to care for Soldiers who have volunteered to serve their country in time of war.

In an Army that is constantly evolving, the challenges our drill sergeants face continue to increase. Whether they are instructing warrior tasks and battle drills, Basic Rifle Marksmanship or first aid, our drill sergeants are called upon to master these subject areas and instill the combat importance of each.

The lives and welfare of Warriors hinge on what they learn. The success of the overall Army mission depends on how well they master it.

The type of Warrior being molded in

today's Army is more challenging than ever, thus putting an increasing requirement for the drill sergeant to be a powerful role model.

Drill sergeants must break down the training for their Soldiers, adhering to the premise that the BCT Soldier does not know anything about the Army and there is no baseline. That applies to Soldier skills such as marching and how to wear the uniform to the very simple tasks of how to make a bunk properly.

Interwoven in subjects that the drill sergeants teach are the heavy threads of discipline — but this is self-discipline, rather than the discipline that is constantly enforced.

Drill sergeants are required to be flexible, adaptive, and creative as well to ensure that Soldiers are being trained with an "outcome-based" focus, instead of a "process-driven" one.

In today's Army, increased responsibility is given to every leader, regardless of rank. It is the responsibility of the drill sergeants to make sure that the Soldiers they train are ready to accept this in-

creased responsibility.

Make no mistake, our drill sergeants have tremendous demands put upon them. We leaders realize that and recognize the fact that these highly motivated, physically and mentally fit and well-disciplined NCOs are ready to tackle their mission.

With all this being said, there is really no one way to best sum up what drill sergeants represent.

To officers and NCOs, drill sergeants are professionals to be respected and even envied for their abilities and knowledge.

To junior officers and NCOs, drill sergeants are the men and women to whom they can turn to for help and advice.

To company commanders, drill sergeants are the bulwarks of the organization.

To the first sergeants, they are the products of a way of life and a symbol of dependability.

To the Soldiers-in-training, drill sergeants are the instillers of discipline, the rock of courage, the one who never gets shaken and probably a person they will never forget.

Ask the Garrison Commander

Civilian Saturday child care; employment help



Col. Dixon

Q I am a civilian single parent and I use the Scales Avenue Child Development Center. I work every Saturday. Why can't I use the free Saturday child care for my children while I work?

A The free care on Saturdays is limited to active-duty Soldiers while performing a Fort Jackson mission. However, if your work week includes Saturday on a regular basis and only four days between Monday and Friday, center management will be happy to sit down with you and initiate a new con-

tract, which includes Saturday as one of your five days of care.

Q My family just PCS'd to Fort Jackson and my wife needs help finding a job. Is there an employment counselor that can help her with this issue?

A Yes, every Army Community Service center has an Employment Readiness Program Manager who provides a full range of employment support programs including seminars and workshops on job search strategies, interview skills, federal employment and others. The ERP Manager assists spouses in identifying their job skills, pro-

vides job assistance, career counseling, and access to valuable employment references on the national job market. For more information, call 751-5452.

Garrison Fact of the Week

The ACS Employment Readiness Program provides free typing certification testing as well as typing tutorials to increase your typing speed and accuracy. Contact the ACS Employment Readiness Office at 751-5452 to schedule an appointment.

To submit questions to "Ask the Garrison Commander," call 751-5442, or e-mail Scott.Nahrwold@conus.army.mil.

The Fort Jackson Leader

Fort Jackson, South Carolina 29207

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To submit articles, story ideas or announcements for the community page, write the Fort Jackson Leader, Fort Jackson, S.C. 29207, call (803) 751-7045 or e-mail

fjleader@conus.army.mil.

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Pearl Harbor veterans invited to Fort Jackson

Crystal Lewis Brown
Leader Staff

This Pearl Harbor Day, Fort Jackson Soldiers and World War II veterans will come together at a concert to honor the sacrifices made on that infamous day 67 years ago, said Col. Kevin Shwedo, Fort Jackson deputy commanding officer.

Several times a year, preacher and country singer Eric Horner — widely known for his patriotic songs — performs for Soldiers at military installations throughout the country.

But as he prepared for his Sunday performance for a group of Advanced Individual Training Soldiers, he noticed something a little different about the date, said Shwedo.

“He looked at the calendar one day and saw by coincidence he’d be singing to the Soldiers on Pearl Harbor Day,” he said. Then, said Shwedo, Horner asked if he could bring a few World War II veterans with him.

Not only did Shwedo like the idea, he decided to expand on it. Shwedo has since extended an invitation to local World War II veterans to visit Fort Jackson for a “meet and greet” session before joining the AIT Soldiers for the concert.

Shwedo said he has enlisted the help of Maj. Gen. George Goldsmith of the Columbia chapter of the Military Order of World Wars to honor the veterans during the mid-day concert.

Bringing the World War II veterans and AIT Soldiers together is fitting, Shwedo said.

“They have a lot in common in terms of self-sacrifice,” he said. Both groups “knowingly joined the Army in a time of war,” he said.

It’s also good for the new Soldiers to have the opportunity to recognize the contributions their older counterparts made.

“It’s important to go ahead and have the Soldiers understand the ground the previous Soldiers laid,” he said. “They now have an opportunity to apply a face to sacrifice.”

All local World War II veterans are invited to the “meet and greet” session at 2 p.m., Dec. 7, at the MG Robert B. Solomon Center. The concert will begin immediately afterward.

Crystal.Y.Brown@us.army.mil

RRS starts new hall of fame



Photo by Crystal Lewis Brown

Retired Sgt. Maj. Ray “Old Soldier” Moran, accepts a plaque from Col. James Comish, U.S. Army Recruiting and Retention School commandant, during the Sgt. Maj. Ray “Old Soldier” Moran Recruiting and Retention Hall of Fame induction ceremony Dec. 2. The other inductee into the newly-formed Hall of Fame was retired Sgt. Maj. Faith E. Childers, who served as Director of the Retention Department, Recruiting and Retention School until her 2004 retirement.

RCI (continued from Page 1)

quality of living to the same standard as what they can get off post,” he said, acknowledging that some Soldiers are hesitant to move on post because of concerns about the quality of housing.

“We’re trying to get that fear out of the Soldiers and their families to let them know they can get something better than what is

outside the gate.”

The project will consist of new housing and renovations, said Harper. The company plans to demolish 916 units and build 610 new ones in a mixture of single family, duplex and town homes.

Harper said his company looked to the community to find out what they wanted in

on-post housing.

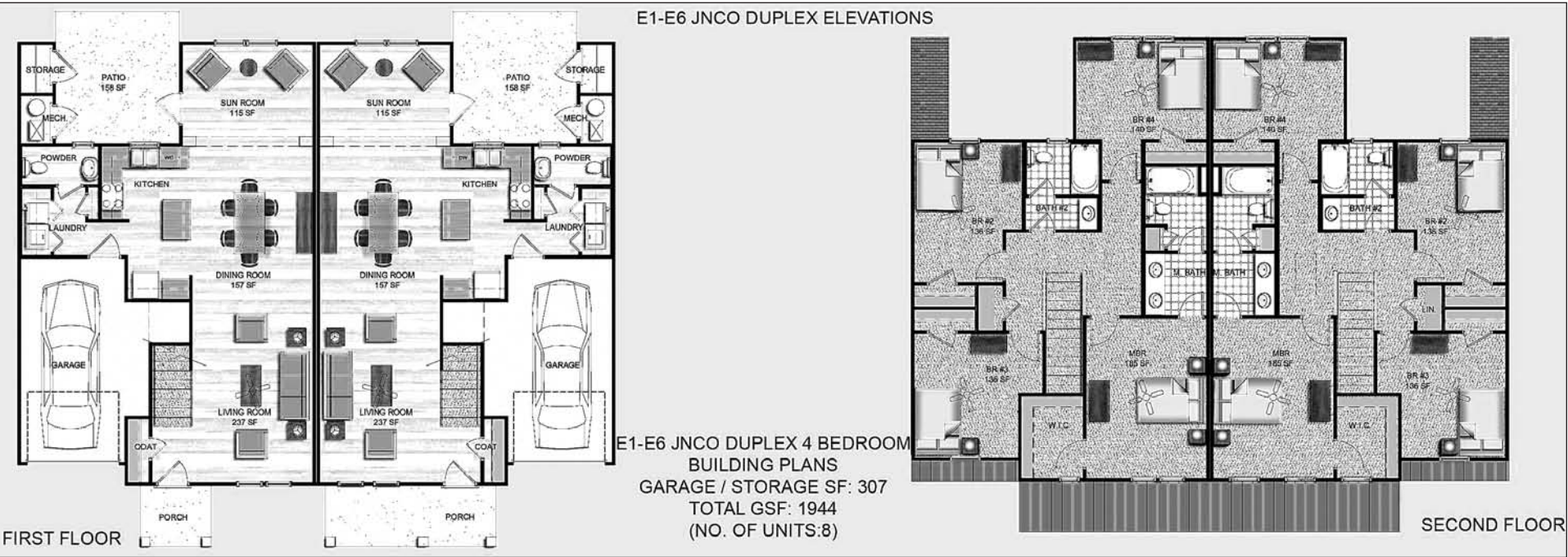
Two things that stood out, he said, were more space and more storage.

Currently, the largest on-post house is a four-bedroom with about 1,700 square feet, he said. With the new construction, four-bedroom homes will begin at more than 1,900 square feet. Walk-in closets and

garages also offer the additional storage space families were seeking.

The project will take place in three phases across four years. Construction for phase one is ready to begin, and phases two and three will begin in 2009 and 2010, respectively.

Crystal.Y.Brown@us.army.mil



Graphic Provided by Balfour Beatty

Artist’s depiction of the floor plans for the new and renovated housing under way at Fort Jackson through the Residential Community Initiative.

Around Post

AG School AoR

The Adjutant General School's Assumption of Responsibility is set for 4 p.m., Dec. 11 at the Soldier Support Institute auditorium. Command Sgt. Maj. Darlene C. Hagood will also serve as the AG Regimental command sergeant major.

Roads Open

Construction is complete on Commissary Way, which leads to the commissary from Imboden Street, and Brown Avenue, which leads to the NCO Club from the housing area. Both roads are now open.

Arbor Day Tree Planting

A partnership celebrating Arbor Day is planning a tree planting event from 9 a.m. to noon, Saturday at Hilton Field. More than 300 trees will be planted, and everyone is invited to participate. To enter the gate, bring identification for all occupants of the vehicle, and proof of insurance and registration. For more information, call 751-7271.



*Home for
the Holidays*

Garrison holiday celebration

6-11 p.m., Friday
Officers' Club
\$15 per person
dress is holiday attire
Social Hour is 6-7 p.m.



At your service

hours and phone numbers for key post facilities

All South Federal Credit Union, 782-9830 — 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday-Thursday; 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Friday.

American Red Cross, 751-4329/5923 — 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday

Andy's Fitness Center, 751-4177 — 5 a.m. to 9 p.m., Monday-Friday; 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday; 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sunday; call for opening time on training and federal holidays

Army Career Alumni Program, 751-4109/4104 — 7:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m., Monday-Friday

Army Community Service, 751-5256 — 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday

Army Continuing Education Services, 751-5341 — 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday

Bowling, Century Lanes, 751-6138 — closed Monday, 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m., Tuesday-Thursday; 11:30 a.m. to 11 p.m., Friday; 1 p.m. to midnight, Saturday; 2-10 p.m., Sunday; Ivy Lanes, 751-4759

Car Care Center, 782-1639 — 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday-Friday

Chaplain Museum, 751-8827/8079 — 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday-Friday.

Child and Youth Services, 751-4865 — 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday, Wednesday and Friday; 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesday, Thursday

Civilian Personnel Advisory Center, 751-3219 — 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday-Friday

Class VI, 782-1601 — 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday-Friday; 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., Saturday; 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Sunday

Coleman Gym, 751-5896 — 5:30 a.m. to 9 p.m., Monday-Friday; 6 a.m. to 2 p.m., weekends, training holidays and holidays except Christmas and New Year's Day

Commissary, 751-5789 — 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sunday; 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., Tuesday and Saturday; 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Wednesday-Friday

Department of the Army Photos (TSC), 751-7593 — 8-11 a.m. and 1-3 p.m., Monday-Thursday

Defense Military Pay Office, 751-6669 (*Soldiers*), 751-4914 (*Civilian*) — 8-11:30 a.m. and 12:30-4 p.m., Monday-Friday

Dental Clinics, 751-5178/6017 — 7:15 a.m. to 4:15 p.m., Monday-Friday

Family Health Center, 751-2273 — 7:20 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday-Friday; 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., training holidays

Florist, 738-1812 — 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday-Friday

Furniture Store, 787-9175 — 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday-Friday; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday; 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday

Hospital Retail Annex, 782-1263 — 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday-Friday

ID Section, 751-7731 — 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday-Friday

Legal Assistance and Claims, 751-4287/3603 — 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday-Friday

LCI-SSSC, 790-5306 — 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday-Friday

Main Outpatient Pharmacy, 751-2259 — 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday-Friday

MG Robert B. Solomon Center, 751-4056 — 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday through Friday; 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday; 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sunday

Military Clothing Sales Store, 787-5248 — 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday-Friday; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday; 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday

NCO Club, 782-2218 — Regular hours are 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday-Friday and 8 p.m. to 2 a.m., Saturday. The NCO Club is open later for entertainment and special events; call for details and times

Officers' Club, 751-4906 — 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday (open to nonmembers); 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Sunday brunch (members)

Palmetto Falls Water Park, 751-3381 — closed Monday; 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., Tuesday-Saturday; 1-7 p.m., Sunday

Perez Fitness Center, 751-6258 — 5:30 a.m. to 9 p.m., Monday-Friday; 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., weekends and training holidays

Pools, Knight, 751-4796 — 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday-Friday; closed Saturday and Sunday; Legion — noon to 7 p.m., Monday-Friday; closed Saturday and Sunday

Post Exchange, 787-1950/1951/1952 — 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., Monday-Saturday; 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Sunday

Post Office, 782-8709 — 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday-Friday

Recycling Center, 751-4208 — 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday-Friday; Open 24 hours for drop-off

Refill Annex (PX mall), 751-2250 — 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday-Friday

Reuse Center, 751-5121 — 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Monday-Friday

Safety Office, 751-6004 — 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday

Shoppettes — Lee Road, 782-0590 — 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday-Friday; 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., Saturday and Sunday; Gate 1, 782-2076 — 7 a.m. to 9 p.m., Monday-Friday; 8 a.m. to 9 p.m., Saturday and Sunday; Gate 2, 790-4478 — 24 hours a day

SSI Retail Annex, 738-9189 — 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Monday-Friday

Theater, 751-7488 — various times, Friday-Sunday

Thrift Shop, 787-2153 — 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Tuesday; 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Thursday; 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., first Saturday of the month

Vanguard Gym, 751-4384

Vehicle Registration, 751-5887 — 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday-Friday

Veterinary Clinic, 751-7160 — 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday-Friday

Victory Travel, 751-5812 — 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday-Friday

Anything we missed? E-mail us at fjleader@conus.army.mil. This information will be published the first issue of each month in The Fort Jackson Leader.

Mustion (continued from Page 1)

have done, it's been shaping the teams and the organizations to be able to accomplish the mission; being able to step back and see organizations perform the way they are supposed to perform has been the achievement I'm proudest of."

Mustion has asked long-time friend and mentor, Lt. Gen. Thomas Metz, director,

Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Organization, Arlington, Va., to pin on his star at Friday's ceremony. The two first met in 1992 just after Mustion had finished attending the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College.

"I wouldn't be in the positions I've been in if it weren't for the coaching and the

teaching and the mentoring he has given me over the last 16 years," Mustion said. "He's also been a role model allowing me to watch and learn from his leadership style, his decision making processes and his demeanor."

Mustion's promotion ceremony will be held at the SSI auditorium at 3 p.m.

Michael.A.Glasch@us.army.mil

Customer Service Corner

The DoD Interactive Customer Evaluation system continues to shape the future of customer service. ICE is sponsored by the Office of the Secretary of Defense Quality Management Office and is part of the Fort Jackson Customer Management Services.

Its primary purpose is to improve customer service; give the leadership timely information about service quality; and to improve the speed, quality and quantity of feedback from customers. The interactive Web site allows customers to submit direct and immediate feedback to facility managers about their products and services.

With the click of a mouse, the system sends comments, suggestions, complaints or compliments directly to the appropriate service provider manager. The system is completely anonymous; once a comment is submitted, it automatically defaults to the generic ICE site IP address and cannot be traced to the customer. Customers who want to provide their contact information can do so, and a manager will contact them directly if a response is requested.

Customer input can address health, housing, recreation, family programs, shopping, administration, dining, communications, safety and security, travel and transportation. ICE provides another avenue for customers to register their opinions on what they like, what they dislike, and to suggest improvements to facility managers.

Facility managers will use the feedback to continuously review, improve and provide the highest quality service possible. The system automatically calculates the customer service rating each week and reports trend data as well. These reports are provided to the garrison command, hospital and dental commanders and other directorate and organizational supervisors responsible for each service provider area. Fort Jackson service providers concluded the 2008 fiscal year with an overall ICE customer satisfaction rating of 95 percent with more than 37,000 submissions.

The ICE site can be accessed by logging on to <http://ice.disa.mil/>, clicking on Army CONUS, then on Fort Jackson; or by logging on to the Fort Jackson Web site at <http://www.jackson.army.mil/>, scrolling down and clicking the

ICE logo. Anyone with questions concerning the ICE system can contact the Fort Jackson ICE Site Administrator at 751-4926/3425 or by e-mail at ice@conus.army.mil.

Community members who have issues that cannot be resolved by facility managers can submit them through the Community FIRST issue resolution process. One way in which Community FIRST issues are surfaced is through focus groups of community members.

The following focus groups are currently scheduled: Soldiers (active duty, National Guard and Reserve), Dec. 9; and family members, Dec. 16 (Note: this is a change from Dec. 11). Both focus groups will be held from 8 a.m. to noon in the Plans, Analysis and Integration Office conference room, Building 3499.

Between 12 and 15 delegates are needed for each focus group, as well as a facilitator, recorder, transcriber and issue support staff members; any Fort Jackson community member can volunteer. Training and child care will be provided, but registration is required in advance.

For more information on focus groups or volunteering, call 751-3425.

For a detailed list of issues that have been submitted through Community FIRST and the status of each issue, visit the Customer Management Services Web site at: <http://www.jackson.army.mil/WellBeing/wellbeing.htm>.

New issues may be submitted on the site as well, by clicking on "Submit an Issue or Recommendation" or on the Community FIRST Logo. Whether it affects individuals and constituent groups at the installation level or throughout the Army, feedback is important.

ICE Appreciation

Garrison congratulates the Directorate of Information Management, Information Processing, specifically the Video Teleconferencing Center; and the Directorate of Human Resources, specifically the Army Substance Abuse Program. They have achieved a 5.0 and a 4.95 rating, respectively, in employee/staff attitude out of a possible 5.0 for a 12-week period.

A tip of the campaign hat to this week's ...

Drill Sergeants of the Cycle

from the "Forty Rounds" Battalion



Staff Sgt. Marc Brennan
Company A,
2nd Battalion,
13th Infantry
Regiment



Sgt. 1st Class William Umbleby
Company B,
2nd Battalion,
13th Infantry
Regiment



Staff Sgt. Damian Hofmann
Company C,
2nd Battalion,
13th Infantry
Regiment



Staff Sgt. Tamara Gentle
Company D,
2nd Battalion,
13th Infantry
Regiment



Sgt. 1st Class Michael A. Stills Sr.
Company E,
2nd Battalion,
13th Infantry
Regiment



Staff Sgt. Joshua Lutz
Company F,
2nd Battalion,
13th Infantry
Regiment

Treat every weapon as if it is loaded.
Handle every weapon with care.
Identify the target before you fire.
Never point the muzzle at anything you don't intend to shoot.
Keep the weapon on safe and your finger off the trigger until you intend to fire.

WEAPONS SAFETY!

U.S. ARMY
ARMY STRONG.

OWN THE EDGE
Leading on the Edge
<https://erc.army.mil>

FEATURE

Deadline today for packages downrange

Mike A. Glasch
Leader Staff

Only a few hours remain to send holiday mail and packages to Soldiers serving in Iraq and Afghanistan. Today is the deadline to get them to the post office to ensure they will arrive before Dec. 25.

"The earliest deadline is for Soldiers serving in Iraq and Afghanistan area," said Robert Dow, window service technician, U.S. Postal Service, Fort Jackson Post Office.

Dow and his two co-workers handle nearly 10,000 pieces of mail in an average week. That will increase as more packages, cards and letters are sent out as the holiday mailing season gets into full swing.

Holiday mail, including packages and cards, going to all other overseas military bases, excluding Iraq and Afghanistan should be shipped by Dec. 11.

Dow said Priority Mail flat-rate boxes are the best value when shipping to military members serving overseas. The largest flat-rate box costs \$10.95 to ship to an APO or FPO address. That is a \$2 discount from the regular rate.

"As soon as we punch in that APO or FPO code, the machine automatically calculates the discount," he said.

Measuring 12" x 12" x 5 1/2", the box is 50 percent larger than other USPS flat-rate boxes, and if the items being mailed weigh 70 pounds or less, it ships at the flat rate.

Those who can't beat the priority dates have another option to get holiday goodies to their destinations in time: Express Mail. However, it will cost a bit more, and it is not available for service members serving



Photo by Mike A. Glasch

Robert Dow, window service technician, U.S. Postal Service, Fort Jackson Post Office, attaches postage for a customer sending a package to a Soldier overseas. The deadlines for holiday mailings vary by destination.

in Iraq and Afghanistan.

For Soldiers who are expecting packages from home, but go on leave before they arrive, Dow said not to worry.

"We know that over the holidays a majority of the Soldiers are not here," he said. "We will hold their mail and packages and they can get them when the return from exodus."

When shipping any holiday package, the USPS recommends following some basic

guidelines:

- Clearly print the shipping and return addresses.
- Do not use wrapping paper or string on the outside.
- Package the contents securely and in leak-proof containers.
- Consider the customs of the country to ensure the items are appropriate and acceptable.
- Include the mailing and return ad-

resses as well as the contents of the box on a slip of paper with the other contents.

Including both addresses can help postal employees like Dow make sure a wayward package gets to its destination.

"We get a lot of mail that has incomplete addresses," he said. "If we have a way of contacting the sender, we will try to work with them to figure out exactly where that piece of mail needs to go."

Michael.A.Glasch@us.army.mil

United States Postal Service 2008 shipping cutoff dates

Military Mail						
Addressed To APO/FPO AE ZIPs		<u>090-092</u>	<u>093</u>	<u>094-098</u>	<u>340</u>	<u>962-966</u>
Express Mail(r) Military Service (EMMS)1		Dec. 18	N/A	Dec. 18	Dec. 18	Dec. 18
First-Class Mail(r) Letters and Cards		Dec. 11	Today	Dec. 11	Dec. 11	Dec. 11
Priority Mail(r)		Dec. 11	Today	Dec. 11	Dec. 11	Dec. 11
Parcel Airlift Mail (PAL)2		Today	Expired	Today	Today	Today

1 EMMS: is available to selected military post offices. Check with your local Post Office to determine if this service is available to your APO/FPO address.

2 PAL: is a service that provides air transportation for parcels on a space-available basis. It is available for Parcel Post items not exceeding 30 pounds in weight or 60 inches in length and girth combined. The applicable PAL fee must be paid in addition to the regular surface rate of postage for each addressed piece sent by PAL service.

3 SAM: parcels are paid at Parcel Post postage rate of postage with maximum weight and size limits of 15 pounds and 60 inches in length and girth combined. SAM parcels are first transported domestically by surface and then to overseas destinations by air on a space-available basis.

International Mail									
International Mail Addressed To		<u>Africa</u>	<u>Asia/ Pacific Rim</u>	<u>Australia/ New Zealand</u>	<u>Canada</u>	<u>Caribbean</u>	<u>Central/ South America</u>	<u>Mexico</u>	<u>Europe East</u>
Global Express Guaranteed(r) (GXG)		Dec. 19	Dec. 19	Dec. 19	Dec. 22	Dec. 22	Dec. 19	Dec. 22	Dec. 19
Express Mail(r) International (EMS)		Dec. 12	Dec. 17	Dec. 17	Dec. 18	Dec. 17	Dec. 12	Dec. 17	Dec. 17
Priority Mail(r) International (PMI)		Today	Dec. 11	Dec. 11	Dec. 11	Dec. 11	Today	Dec. 11	Dec. 11
First-Class Mail(r)		Today	Dec. 11	Dec. 11	Dec. 11	Dec. 11	Today	Dec. 11	Dec. 11

2008 Holiday Season Import Dates*

Surface — LC/AO, Dec. 11; CP, Today

Air — LC/AO, Dec. 17; CP, Dec. 15

EMS — Dec. 20

* Provides mailing guidelines for foreign postal partners in order to meet December 25 delivery. LC = Letters, aerogramme's (although USPS no longer offers), cards and letter package; AO = Newspapers, magazines, matter for the blind, printed matter, small package; CP = Priority parcels

FEATURE

Post preserves history for future generations

Daniel Terrill
Leader Staff

Three hundred years ago, weary travelers in search of lodging, and farmhands may have traveled a lone trail located south of what is now Fort Jackson's Confidence Course.

Today, Fort Jackson's Cultural Resource Management personnel monitor this area and 51 others like it annually to make sure they are preserved.

The 18th century trail, referred to as site 523, and the others like it are deemed "eligible," meaning they could contribute to understanding historical and cultural values, said Chan Funk an archaeologist contractor with Fort Jackson's environmental branch.

"We have an obligation to be the stewards of the past for the future," said Mark Dutton, cultural resource manager, adding that artifacts and items found at these locations belong to past generations. "It's our duty to save that for future generations. It's showing respect because these artifacts belong to them."

To make sure the eligible sites are unharmed, Funk searches within the boundaries for any recent physical damage.

White signs posted on trees that read "restricted area" in bold, red letters designate the boundaries. His associate, geographer Philip Clauss, checks the boundaries and notes any topographical changes, so the site can be accurately labeled on the installation map.

If Funk found damage, he would document it, take pictures and make recommendations to protect the site and prevent further harm.

"We don't have a problem with troops moving through the area or heavy, rubber-tired vehicles, but as soon as you penetrate the surface of a (historical) archaeological



Photo by Daniel Terrill

Chan Funk, Fort Jackson's Environmental and Natural Resource Division archaeologist, walks the boundaries of site 523, located south of the Confidence Course, checking for recent physical damage to the ground Nov. 24. There are 52 protected sites on post that are monitored annually.

site, then you're impacting the significance of that resource."

When excavating, archaeologists dig precisely and delicately to recover animal, plant, human or tool fragments.

A Soldier, however, may unknowingly destroy them while digging because the fragments are underneath the soil.

So far, archeologists have found items

such as pottery, quartz tools and arrowheads.

The Environmental and Natural Resource Division tries to educate Fort Jackson personnel through the Environmental Officer Course, where Soldiers, designated by their units, learn Environmental and Natural Resource Division regulations and how to comply with them, Funk said.

Most drill sergeants are given the environmental information, so they know not to allow any of their Soldiers to disturb the sites.

A person who damages a site can be charged with a federal crime, Funk said. There have not been any major violations on post to date.

Daniel.Terrill@us.army.mil

CID seeks special agents with \$20,000 bonus

Criminal Investigation Command

FORT BELVOIR, Va. — The Department of Defense recently approved a continuation of a \$20,000 lump sum Critical Skills Accession Bonus for active duty enlisted Soldiers who successfully complete the “311A — CID Special Agent” Warrant Officer Basic Course.

The CSAB targets the 31 series Military Occupational Specialty for Military Police Corps noncommissioned officers selected for appointment to warrant officer positions in the 311A MOS. The program, as outlined in MILPER message 08-242 is extended through Sept. 30, 2010.

Enlisted CID special agents with at least 24 months of CID investigative experience and a minimum of 60 credit-hours of college, and who are no longer on apprentice status, are eligible to receive the bonus.

According to CID Deputy Chief of Staff for Support Col. Bill Macken, the bonus is intended to encourage qualified Soldiers to

apply to become warrant officers, especially qualified enlisted agents and more specifically staff sergeants. It is also intended to help meet the ever-present demand for CID special agents.

CID is actively recruiting qualified and experienced 31 series MOS Soldiers to fill 311A positions worldwide, according to Chris Grey, CID spokesperson. “We will consider, on a case-by-case basis, Soldiers serving in the 31B and 31E series, and junior officers with law enforcement experience and/or a college degree in criminal justice.”

CID is currently below its target goal in warrant officer strength and at strength in the enlisted CID special agent series.

“Our CID special agent authorizations will increase in fiscal year 2009 in order to fill several newly authorized CID detachments,” Macken said. “With the approval of the \$20,000 bonus, and our need for warrant officers, now is a prime opportunity for

qualified Soldiers to apply to become CID warrant officer special agents.”

“Upon selection for warrant officer, candidates will attend the Warrant Officer Candidate School and the CID WOBC,” said Warrant Officer Career Development Program Manager, Special Agent Jennifer Redfern. “After successfully completing the WOBC, newly appointed 311A’s will sign an agreement to serve six years as a CID special agent, qualifying them for the \$20,000 lump-sum bonus.”

Qualified CID enlisted Soldiers who are interested in becoming warrant officers are encouraged to contact their team chiefs, special agents-in-charge and battalion operations officers for letters of recommendation.

All qualified individuals outside of CID should visit or contact the nearest CID field office, where personnel can answer questions about the warrant officer program and assist Soldiers with preparing warrant offi-

cer applications.

According to the MILPER message, Active Guard Reserve, Mobilized Reserve and National Guard Soldiers are not authorized to participate in the CSAB program.

The application process and checklist forms are located online at <http://www.usarec.army.mil/hq/warrant/>. Interested applicants should visit the Web site, review and become familiar with the Warrant Officer Accession Program “Sample Application and Guide,” then prepare a Warrant Officer Application Checklist.

Applicants should also review the “Most Common Errors on Applications” for Department of the Army Form 61 (Application for Appointment); DA Form 160-R (Application for Active Duty); Request for Moral Waiver; Statement of Understanding; Security Memorandum; and review “Other Common Faults,” and any other applicable documents to avoid mistakes during the application process.

Chaplain School welcomes new HHC commander



Photo by Steven Hoover, U.S. Army Chaplain Center and School

Chaplain (Col.) Samuel J.T. Boone, U.S. Army Chaplain Center and School commandant, passes the Headquarters and Headquarters Company, USACHCS, unit guidon to incoming company commander, Capt. Kamili M. Williamson, in a change of command ceremony Nov. 20. Williamson, a field artillery officer who was born and raised in South Carolina, comes to USACHCS after serving in Schweinfurt, Germany, with the 1st Battalion, 7th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division. Williamson replaces Maj. Thierry A. Bras, who returns to his previous job as the Combined Arms and Tactics Officer for the USACHCS Training Directorate.

Take stock in charitable giving options

Azure Celestine-Brown Financial Adviser

In challenging economic times, charitable organizations need financial support more than ever. The question is, “What is the best way to give to organizations you care about?”

Before writing a check, consider the option of giving shares of stock. When done wisely (with respect to tax laws), you could be doing the charity and yourself a favor. Here is what to consider when giving to a charity.

Choose sustainable investments. If you are interested in investing with the intent of eventually making charitable contributions, choose investments wisely.

Financial experts typically say that it is difficult to pick individual stocks successfully, so consider index funds or mutual funds that will spread the risk across a wider band of companies, allowing for liquidating a fund and giving cash.

It is possible to choose funds that adhere to your values, for example, by choosing funds that invest in companies with good environmental track records (and avoiding those that do not).

With gas prices fueling demand for new sources of energy and concern about global warming, there may be an opportunity to invest in “green” funds that represent companies involved in developing products and services that will help address our energy problems.

If you want to give an investment to charity in the form of stocks, however, avoid putting money in unnecessarily risky ventures, even if you plan to give the stock away at some point in time. Hold that stock. There are certain advantages to buying and holding a publicly traded stock for at least one year before making a donation.

By holding shares beyond the 12-month mark, assuming the shares have increased in value, you will be immune to capital gains tax that would apply to the profit by signing the stock over to a charity.

You also have the ability to deduct the full amount of stock value when you itemize your taxes.

So, if you purchased a stock for \$500, and a few

years later it is worth \$1,000, you can make a larger donation and write off the full \$1,000 value of the stock.

The exception to the “buy-hold-donate” strategy is if your stock has taken a hit and is worth less than when you purchased it, the strategy can backfire.

For stock held more than a year with a depreciated value, you’re better off selling the stock so you can offset other capital gains with the loss on your tax return, and then donate the cash you recoup from your investment.

In addition to offsetting capital gains with the loss on the sale of the stock (and up to \$3,000 of ordinary income), you can deduct the value of the check you write as a charitable contribution.

Research the charity. Charities are not immune to fiscal mismanagement, so take a look under the hood before you donate.

When selecting a charity, ask for information about how much of each contributed dollar is applied to fees and operating expenses. According to Charity Navigator, a Web site dedicated to helping people be more thoughtful in their donations, the majority of American charities spend less than 25 percent on costs associated with running their organization and channel the remainder into their programs and services.

Keep this guideline in mind when you evaluate charities that interest you.

Consult your tax planner and financial adviser. Tax laws are complex and constantly changing, so it is wise to consult a tax expert before making any large charitable contributions.

A tax expert can identify if there are advantages to making a contribution at a certain time of year and may advise you to accelerate or postpone your gift at year end based on your tax situation. Your financial adviser can help you establish a financial plan that takes into account your charitable giving goals and help you select funds aligned with your needs.

Editor’s Note: Azure Celestine-Brown is a financial adviser with Ameriprise. She is also a former service member and an Army spouse at Fort Jackson.

ARMY NEWS

Soldier, father simultaneously awarded medals

Spc. George Welcome
American Forces Press Service

BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan — Though decades separate the Vietnam War and the Global War on Terror, a common denominator in the two conflicts has been the bravery and sacrifice of the American service member.

Chief Warrant Officer 2 Jonathan Harris received the Silver Star Medal in Afghanistan Nov. 28 while his father, retired Staff Sgt. Gary Harris, simultaneously was decorated for his valor in Vietnam during a joint long-distance ceremony.

The Harris family watched from a conference room at Fort Campbell, Ky., as the younger Harris received the Silver Star from Maj. Gen. Jeffrey J. Schloesser, commander of Combined Joint Task Force 101. Meanwhile, Soldiers watched a video screen as the elder Harris was pinned with the Silver Star and a Bronze Star he earned serving in Vietnam. He was awarded the medals in 1969, but they had never been formally presented to him.

"It's very rare that we present the Silver Star," Schloesser said. "We have a very high standard, and we make sure that the few who do earn it have done so through selfless sacrifice. It's clear that Mr. Harris did that, and it is also clear that the nation owes a debt to [former] Staff Sgt. Gary Harris. It was almost 40 years ago that he earned it, and I hope in some small way that we can pay back that debt by presenting him his award with his son's today."

Personal courage and selfless service could be said to run in the Harris family bloodline, as both father and son reacted similarly in their encounters with enemy forces. Both risked their lives to ensure the safety of their comrades.

The elder Harris displayed this courage Aug. 15, 1969, as a squad leader in Vietnam. He and his company were patrolling a perimeter near Gol Ree and were attacked with mortars and rocket fire. He quickly directed the members of his squad to return fire on the enemy.

As the attack died down, he moved his squad closer to the perimeter, which had been weakened during the barrage. As the enemy resumed its assault, he again directed his

squad to return fire, breaking the enemy attack. During the engagement, he risked his life by helping medics to aid wounded Marines and helping to bring them to safety.

The younger Harris also displayed bravery in the face of danger. On July 2, Harris, a UH-60 Black Hawk pilot assigned to Company C, 5th Battalion, 101st Combat Aviation Brigade, landed his helicopter at a landing zone near Gardez, Afghanistan, to pick up Soldiers for transport when his aircraft came under attack by enemies using rocket-propelled grenades, a heavy machine gun and various assault rifles.

With the aircraft on fire, Harris and crew managed to fly it a short distance before putting it down again. After safely exiting the burning helicopter, the entire crew took up a defensive position. They managed to contact a CH-47 Chinook that was in the area to help extract them from the battlefield. As the Chinook landed, the enemy resumed fire.

It was then that Harris, who was helping one of his wounded crew chiefs to the helicopter, exposed himself to fire by engaging and killing an approaching enemy combatant. He entered the helicopter only after ensuring that the members of his crew, the ground forces and the quick-reaction force were safely aboard.

"Mr. Harris has been great since the incident," said Sgt. DeeJay Norby, a crew chief who was also involved in the action at Gardez. "He didn't get down or anything afterward; he went right back to business doing his job. It's really awesome getting to fly with a great group of pilots and crew chiefs."

This was not the first award that Harris has received during this deployment. He also earned the Air Medal with valor device.

In his short address, Harris thanked his flight crew and the crew of the Chinook that performed the rescue operation.

"I'm so lucky to serve with so many great heroes," he said. "Without them, the outcome might not have been so good."

He also gave a heartfelt thank you to his father, whose



DoD Photo by Spc. George Welcome, American Forces Press Service
Chief Warrant Officer 2 Jonathan Harris receives a handshake from Maj. Gen. Jeffrey J. Schloesser after being presented the Silver Star at Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan. Harris and his father, retired Staff Sgt. Gary Harris, received the awards in a joint long-distance ceremony.

life and service, he said, set the example for him.

"Every time people thank us for our service, I tell them to thank a Vietnam vet," he said. "So, Dad, I want to thank you today."

Editor's Note: Spc. George Welcome serves with the 101st Combat Aviation Brigade Public Affairs Office.

Gates provides continuity in War on Terror effort

Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — President-elect Barack Obama cited Monday the need for continuity as the United States fights two wars in announcing that Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates will remain at the Pentagon when his administration takes over next month.

"At a time when we face an unprecedented transition amidst two wars, I have asked Robert Gates to continue as secretary of defense, and I'm pleased that he's accepted," Obama said at a news conference in Chicago.

"He restored accountability. He won the confidence of military commanders, and the trust of our brave men and women in uniform and their families," he said. "He earned the respect of members of Congress on both sides of the aisle for his pragmatism and competence. He knows that we need a sustainable national security strategy — and that includes a bipartisan consensus at home."

The president-elect said he will tell the secretary to end the war in Iraq through a

successful transition to Iraqi control.

"We will also ensure that we have the strategy — and resources — to succeed against al-Qaida and the Taliban," he said. "As Bob said not too long ago, Afghanistan is where the War on Terror began, and it is where it must end."

Gates thanked the president-elect for his confidence.

"I am deeply honored that the president-elect has asked me to continue as secretary of defense," Gates said. "Mindful that we are engaged in two wars and face other serious challenges at home and around the world, and with a profound sense of personal responsibility to and for our men and women in uniform and their families, I must do my duty as they do theirs. How could I do otherwise?"

"Serving in this position for nearly two years, and especially the opportunity to lead our brave and dedicated Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines and Defense civilians, has been the most gratifying experience of my life," the secretary continued. "I am honored to continue to serve them and our country, and I will be honored to serve

President-elect Obama."

Obama said the national security challenges facing the country are as grave and urgent as the economic crisis.

"We are fighting two wars," he said. "Old conflicts remain unresolved, and newly assertive powers have put strains on the international system. The spread of nuclear weapons raises the peril that the world's deadliest technology could fall into dangerous hands. Our dependence on foreign oil empowers authoritarian governments and endangers our planet."

The United States must be as strong at home as it is overseas, and American economic power must sustain military strength, diplomatic leverage and global leadership, he said.

"The common thread linking these challenges is the fundamental reality that in the 21st century, our destiny is shared with the world's," Obama said.

"From our markets to our security; from our public health to our climate — we must act with the understanding that, now more than ever, we have a stake in what happens across the globe."

"And as we learned so painfully on 9/11, terror cannot be contained by borders, nor safety provided by oceans alone," he said.

Obama called for a new dawn of American leadership to face and master the challenges of the 21st century.

"We will strengthen our capacity to defeat our enemies and support our friends," he said. "We will renew old alliances and forge new and enduring partnerships. We will show the world once more that America is relentless in defense of our people, steady in advancing our interests and committed to the ideals that shine as a beacon to the world — democracy and justice, opportunity and unyielding hope — because American values are America's greatest export to the world."

The president-elect has also announced his choices for other posts: New York Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton as secretary of state, Eric Holder as attorney general, Arizona Gov. Janet Napolitano as secretary of homeland security, retired Marine Gen. James L. Jones Jr. as national security advisor and Susan Rice as U.S. ambassador to the United Nations.

COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS

Helping the homeless



Photo by Susanne Kappler

Soldiers from the 120th Adjutant General Battalion (Reception) present a check worth \$331.46 to Beth Well from the Oliver Gospel Mission Nov. 25. The money was raised to provide holiday meals for homeless. Presenting the check are Cpl. Jeremiah McAlister and Chaplain (Maj.) Carol Highsmith.

This Week

AER Commanders and First Sergeants Referral Training

An AER Commanders and First Sergeants Referral Training is scheduled for 9-10:30 a.m., today in the Education Center, Room B-302. For more information or to register, call 751-5256.

Parents Who Care

Parents Who Care (Infants) is scheduled from 10 a.m. to noon today in the Joe E. Mann Center conference room. For more information or to register, call 751-5256.

Red Cross Bloodmobile

A Red Cross Bloodmobile blood drive is scheduled from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Friday at 2600 Lee Road. Call 360-2036 to sign up for an appointment or for more information.

Teen Employment Workshop

A Teen Employment Workshop on how to complete job applications is scheduled for 1:30-2:30 p.m., Saturday at the Youth Services Center. For more information or to register, call 751-5452.

Thrift Shop Sale

A Thrift Shop sale is scheduled from 9

a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Saturday. For more information, call 787-2153.

Holiday Concert

The 282nd Army "Victory" Band is scheduled to perform its winter concert at 3 p.m., Sunday at the Newberry Opera House and 4 p.m., Dec. 14 at the MG Robert B. Solomon Center. For more information, call 751-5357.

AFTB Class

An Army Family Team Building Level II class is scheduled from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., Dec. 11-12 in the Joe E. Mann Center conference room. Attendees must pre-register by Monday.

For more information or to register, e-mail Angela.Crosland@conus.army.mil or call 751-5256.

Lights Before Christmas

Hearts Apart will attend the Riverbanks Zoo Lights Before Christmas event 5:45 p.m., Dec. 12. RSVP by Monday by calling 751-7477 or by e-mail at Ismael.Medina1@us.army.mil.

Immigration 101

An Immigration 101 citizen paperwork assistance class is scheduled for 9-11 a.m., Tuesday in the Strom Thurmond Building, Room 213. For more information or to register, call 751-5256.

Baby Basics/Baby Bundle

A Baby Basics/Baby Bundle class is scheduled from 10 a.m. to noon, Tuesday in the Joe E. Mann Center conference room. For more information or to register, call 751-5256.

EFMP Christmas Party

The EFMP Christmas Party (potluck) is scheduled for 6 p.m., Tuesday at the MG Robert B. Solomon Center. RSVP is required. For more information or to register, call 751-5256.

Anger Management Class

Choices: Anger Management Class is scheduled from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Tuesday at 5616 Hood St., Room 10. For more information or to register, call 751-5256.

Starting and Running a Small Business

A seminar on how to set up and run a small business is scheduled for 1-3:30 p.m., Wednesday in the Education Center, Room B-205. For more information or to register, call 751-5452.

Child Abuse Awareness

A Child Abuse Awareness class is scheduled from noon to 2 p.m., Wednesday in the Main Post Chapel. For more information call 751-5452.

Steps to Federal Employment

A federal employment workshop is scheduled for 8:30-11:30 a.m., Wednesday in the Education Center, Room B-206. For more information call 751-5452.

Holiday Savvy Consumer

A Holiday Savvy Consumer class is scheduled for 8:30-10:30 a.m., Wednesday in the Education Center, Room B-302. For more information call 751-5452.

Phase II LEVY Briefing

A Phase II LEVY Briefing is scheduled for 2:30-3:30 p.m., Wednesday in the Strom Thurmond Building, Room B-302. For more information or to register, call 751-5452.

Upcoming

AG Regimental Breakfast

The AG Regimental Breakfast is scheduled for 7:15-8:30 a.m., Dec. 11 at the NCO Club. For more information, call 751-8309.

Personal Financial Management

A self-paced Personal Financial Management course is set for 8:30-10:30 a.m., Dec. 11 at the Education Center, Room B-302. For more information or to register, call 751-5256/6325.

VFRG/Spouse Battlemind Training

A virtual Family Readiness Group and

Need a friend?



These pets need a home, from top: 2-year-old female cat and 5-year-old German shepherd mix. For information on these or other pets for adoption, call the Veterinary Clinic at 751-7160.

Spouse Battlemind Training class is set for 9-11 a.m., Dec. 11 at the Education Center, Room B-308. For more information or to register, call 751-5256/6325.

SSI Holiday Social

The Soldier Support Institute holiday social is scheduled for 6:30 p.m., Dec. 12 at the NCO Club. The cost is \$15 for E-1 to E-6 and is \$17 for all other ranks and civilians. For more information, call 751-8309.

Managing Children When Under Stress

A Managing Children When Under Stress class is scheduled from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Dec. 16 at 5616 Hood St., Room 10. For more information or to register, call 751-5256.

Financial Readiness for First-Term Junior Enlisted Soldiers

A mandatory financial readiness class for first-term junior enlisted Soldiers for whom Fort Jackson is the first duty station is set from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Dec. 17, at the Education Center, Room B-302. To register or for more information, call 751-5256/6325.

Child Abuse Awareness

A Child Abuse Awareness class is scheduled from noon to 2 p.m., Dec. 17 in the Main Post Chapel.

COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS

Fun and games



Photo by Daniel Terrill

Fort Jackson Garrison Commander Col. Lillian Dixon and a young patron are the first gamers on this Xbox 360 at the grand opening of GameStop in the Main Post Exchange. The opening was Nov. 25, just in time for Family Day and for day-after-Thanksgiving shopping.

For more information call 751-5452.

Phase II LEVY Briefing

A Phase II LEVY Briefing is scheduled for 2:30-3:30 p.m., Dec. 17 in the Strom Thurmond Building, Room 213. For more information or to register, call 751-5452.

Announcements

Holiday Food Drive

The Fort Jackson chapter of the Sgt. Audie Murphy Club is conducting a Holiday Food Drive through Dec. 12. Non-perishable food items can be donated to the 193rd Infantry Brigade, 165th Infantry Brigade, 171st Infantry Brigade and the Soldier Support Institute. For more information, call 751-0964.

EEO Award

The Fort Jackson Equal Employment Opportunity Office is soliciting nominations for the Annual EEO Civilian Supervisor of the Year Award. Nomination packets must be received by Dec. 15. For more information, call 751-5443.

Museum Closed

The U.S. Army Basic Combat Training Museum, formerly the Fort Jackson museum, will close from Dec. 22 to Jan. 2.

Family Child Care Web Site

The Family Child Care Web site, www.armyfcc.com, offers installation program information about FCC for the general public. Interested parents may visit CYSS Central Enrollment or the FCC office to request a password to view FCC provider profiles.

Wounded Soldiers Christmas Cards

The American Red Cross is sponsoring a program to provide Christmas cards to wounded Soldiers. Those interested in sending a card or letter to a Soldier or family member can do so by using the following address: Holiday Mail for Heroes, P.O. Box 5456, Capitol Heights, Md. 20791-5456. For more information, visit <http://www.redcross.org/email/saf>.

Recurring Meetings

Weekly

Walking Away Stress meets at 9 a.m., Mondays and Fridays at the pecan orchard near the post office on Early Street. For a walking log or more information, call 751-6325.

Play Group meets 10-11:30 a.m., Mondays at 5953C Parker Lane. For more information, call 751-5256/6325.

Range Control Briefing is held at 1 p.m., Mondays and Fridays at the Education Center, Room 302. For more information, call 751-7171.

Columbia Composite Squadron (Civil Air Patrol) meets at 6:30 p.m., Mondays at Columbia's downtown airport, Owens Field, main conference room. For more information, e-mail tom.alsup@gmail.com or visit online at www.scwg.cap.gov.

Helping Everyone Reach Optimum Strength meets 5-6 p.m., Tuesdays at Moncrief Army Community Hospital, seventh floor. It is open to combat veterans and their family members. For more information, call 751-2160/2183.

Medical Board Office is closed from 7:30 a.m. until 1 p.m., every Thursday. For information, call 751-0359/7152/7318.

Protestant Women of the Chapel meet Thursdays from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Main Post Chapel. Homeschoolers are welcome and evening studies are available. Free child care is available. For information, e-mail pwocjackson@yahoo.com.

Overseas Travel Clinic is held from 8:30 a.m. to noon, Fridays. For more information, call 751-5151.

Military Widows/Widowers Association meets at 2 p.m., Sundays at Moncrief Army Community Hospital, eighth floor. For more information, call 787-2469.

Monthly

The Ladies Auxiliary meets at 3 p.m., the second Sunday of the month at 534 S. Beltline Blvd. Call 782-5943 or 782-0148 for more information.

Weight Loss Surgery Support Group meets at noon the second and fourth Monday of the month at the Weight Management Center, 180 Laurel Street, Columbia. The group also meets the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at the Palmetto Health Baptist Breast Health Center, 1501 Sumter St., Ground Level, Meeting Room 2, Columbia.

Seabees meet at 7 p.m., the second Monday of the month at the West Metro Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Center. Call 755-7792, 736-0841 or 755-0300 for more information.

Veterans of Foreign Wars meet at 7:30 p.m., the second Monday of the month at 534 S. Beltline Blvd. Call 782-5943 or 782-0148 for more information.

Sergeant Audie Murphy Club meets at 11:30 a.m., the first Tuesday of the month at the Post

Conference Room www.jackson.army.mil/360/SAMC/home.htm.

American Legion Post #182 meets at 7 p.m., the first Tuesday of the month at the Officers' Club. For information, call 351-2333.

Disabled American Veterans meet 6 p.m., the second Tuesday of the month at 511 Violet St., West Columbia. For information, call 796-7122.

Fleet Reserve Association Unit 202 meets at 1 p.m., the third Tuesday of the month at 2620 Lee Road. For more information, call 482-4456.

Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 303 meets at 7 p.m., the third Tuesday of the month at American Legions Post 6, 200 Pickens Street. For more information, call 312-4895.

Purple Heart #402 meets at 7 p.m., the fourth Tuesday of the month at the American Legion Post #6 on Pickens Street. For information, call 351-2333.

American Red Cross new adult volunteers orientation is the third Wednesday of the month from 9 a.m. to noon at building 2179 on Sumter Ave. For more information, call 571-4329.

"Victory Riders" Motorcycle Club meets at 5 p.m., the first and third Thursdays of the month at Magruder's Club. For information, e-mail sec@fjvictoryriders.com.

Society of American Military Engineers meets 11:30 a.m., the fourth Thursday of the month. For information, call 254-0518 or 765-0320.

MEDPROS training will be held 1-4 p.m., the third Friday of the month at the hospital, Room 9-83. For more information or to register, e-mail Jaclynne.Smith@amedd.army.mil.

Retired Enlisted Association meets at 5:30 p.m., the third Friday of the month at the hospital, third floor. For information, call 740-2319 or e-mail jrodgers11@sc.rr.com.

92nd Buffalo Chapter 20 DAV meets at 11 a.m., the third Saturday of the month, except July and August, at the DAV Headquarters 511 Violet St., West Columbia. For information, call 260-1067.

U.S. Navy Sea Cadets, for 11-18 year olds, meet the third weekend of the month. For information, call 622-8707.

Fort Jackson Spouses' Club meets monthly. Visit their Web site, www.fortjacksonspousesclub.com, for more information about upcoming meetings and events, or contact the group at Ft.JacksonSpousesclub@yahoo.com.

The Thrift Shop board meets at 10 a.m., the second Monday of each month at the Thrift Shop. Call 787-2153 for more information.

Veterans of Foreign Wars Gandy-Griffin Post 4262 meets at 7 p.m., the third Tuesday of each month at 5821 North Main St. Call 754-1614 or 447-2320 for more information.

The Ladies Auxiliary Post 4262 meets at 5 p.m., the second Sunday of each month at 5821 North Main St. Call 754-1614 for more information.

To submit a recurring meeting, e-mail the name of the group, when and where the meeting takes place and contact information to fjleader@conus.army.mil.

Army Family Covenant Update

New child development home opens on Fort Jackson

Theresa O'Hagan

Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation

As part of the Child, Youth and School Services commitment to the Army Family Covenant, a new Child Development home has been opened in Fort Jackson family housing at 5953 A/B Parker Lane.

The mission of the CD Home is "to support military readiness, recruitment and retention by providing quality child development programs that reduce the conflict between parental responsibilities and mission requirements."

The CD Home is open from 6 a.m.-6 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The Child Development Home provides a child care option for Soldiers and civilians who are looking for child care in a home-like atmosphere. The professional

staff takes great pride in offering quality child care that fosters social, emotional, physical and cognitive development of children in a nurturing home environment.

The new CD Home provides care for children from 6 weeks to 5 years old. The home offers full- and part-day programs. Care is provided for children of active duty military personnel, Department of Defense civilians, DoD contractors, reservists and National Guard on active duty.

"Our staff consists of professionals with varying amounts of prior experience in the field of education. All staff receives 66 units of specialized training during the first 18 months of employment and 24 units annually after the initial training is complete," explained Terri Bell, director, Child Development Home.

Bell went on to explain, "Our goal is to

provide our parents with the peace of mind that comes from knowing that their child is safe and secure in an environment where the adults value and support each child's development."

The Child Development Home provides a child-centered curriculum that offers and guides children to choices that enhance their development. This is accomplished by introducing new experiences in a stimulating home-like environment.

"Children learn best by doing, and our hands-on approach is built around weekly or monthly themes. During each week we address all areas of development: social, emotional, physical, cognitive and language," Bell said.

The staff strikes a balance between child-initiated and provider-directed activities.

"Our home is set up with learning centers such as art, science, manipulatives, blocks, dramatic play, music, and reading," Bell said.

Homework and board game centers are also provided for school-age children. The activities in each learning center are planned by the providers to facilitate discovery learning. Fostering good character traits is also part of the program.

"Character traits are constantly modeled and taught in the home," Bell explained. "Our Character Counts program offers fun and meaningful ways for children to become part of a positive family community."

Fees are the same as those charged at the Child Development Center or the School Age Services Program. For more information, call 751-7139 or 751-7151.

ACS home visitation program offers new parents support

Theresa O'Hagan

Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation

Under the Army Family Covenant, the Soldier and Family Readiness Program has been able to add new services, such as the New Parent Support Program — Home Visitation.

This voluntary program assists new families who are away from home and therefore do not have the help and support of family members and friends.

The New Parent Support Program — Home Visitation services include home visits, support groups and parenting classes. Programs are designed to help families cope with stress, isolation, pre- and post-deployment issues and the demands of parenthood.

Licensed social workers from the Soldier and Family Readiness Program are professionals trained to provide home visitation and education. They have extensive knowledge of the issues confronting today's parents. These home visitors are sensitive to the unique challenges facing military families.

The program is open to expecting active-duty and retired military parents, active-duty parents with children up to 3 years old and retired military guardians of dependent children up to 3 years old.

Home visitation services are ongoing, intensive home visiting services. When possible, visits are initiated during the prenatal period. Visits take place at least every two weeks and can be more frequent if necessary. Home visitation services are designed to engage fathers and partners. Families gain a network of community-based social support. Services are focused on the family's needs.

The New Parent Support Program — Home Visitation focuses on three key areas.

Pregnancy issues: Education and support on community services, fetal growth and development, childbirth, bonding, the father's role, emotional changes and breastfeeding and nutrition.

Childhood issues: Child development, parenting classes, play and activities and parenting support groups.

Family issues: Stress management, relationship counseling, financial referrals, sibling rivalry, single parenting, deployment, behavioral problems and emotional support.

Support groups: Pregnancy, Postpartum, Physical Training Program, Breastfeeding Support, and Flamingo Women's Group, a group of people, who provide each other with moral support, information and advice on problems relating to some shared issues and experiences.

Referrals: Ongoing assessments with the family members will allow the home visitors to identify needs as they arise and make the appropriate referrals to military or community services.

Additional infant care and parenting classes are available in conjunction with the home visitation program. More information about these classes is available from Army Community Services.

To learn more about New Parent Support Program — Home Visitation or any other of the classes offered to new parents, call 751-6325.

Soldier and Family Readiness Programs, such as Home Visitation, are part of Army Community Service, and are located in Room 218 of the Strom Thurmond Building.



Today

Southern Style Lunch Buffet, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Officers' Club. The buffet is open to the public.

Visit **Century Lanes** for food, fun and bowling. **Magraders Pub** is open for lunch for family members from noon to 4 p.m., Thursdays.

Friday

Artistic Expression with Jake begins 6:30 p.m. at the Youth Center Teen Room.

Dance to a variety of music provided by DJ Randall at **Magraders Club** from 9 p.m. to 3 a.m. The club is located in the back of Magraders Pub, and the cover charge is \$3 for military and \$5 for civilians.

Every Friday is **Fish Fry Friday** at the Officers' Club, from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Lunch at the Officers' Club is open to everyone.

The **First Friday Golf Tournament** begins at 1 p.m. at the Fort Jackson Golf Club.

Saturday

Step Team practice begins 2 p.m. at the Youth Center Dance Room.

The NCO Club presents **Classic Soul Saturday** from 9:30 p.m. to 2 a.m. in the Excalibur Room. The cover charge is \$3 for military and \$5 for civilians. The event features live broadcasts from the BIG DM 101.3 with giveaways 9:30-11 p.m.

The Fort Jackson Golf Club Holiday Open House and sale begins at 8:30 a.m.

Sunday

Come to **brunch** from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Officers' Club.

Enjoy **Family Day at the Youth Center**, 2-6 p.m.

Monday

The NCO Club presents a **full lunch buffet**, featuring fried chicken or fish, fresh vegetables, a full salad bar, soup, assorted desserts and a beverage from 11 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. for \$7.

Tuesday

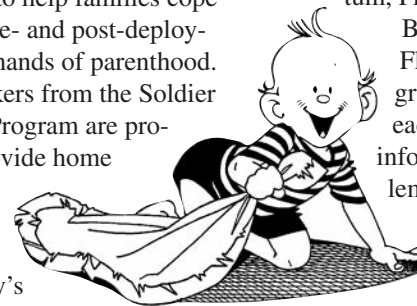
Movie Night begins 6 p.m. at the Youth Center in the Teen Room.

Enjoy **free movies** every Tuesday at Magraders Pub.

Wednesday

Be a sensation with **Karaoke with Tom Marable** at **Magraders Club** at 7:30 p.m. Cover charge is \$3 for military and \$5 for civilians.

Concord Mills shopping trip attendees will meet at the Marion Street Station at 8 a.m. The cost is \$10.



LEGAL

Prepare now for 2008 tax season's end

Capt. Vito Abruzzino
Legal Assistance Attorney

As 2008 ends and preparations for block leave and Christmas begins, be aware that the tax year is coming to a close and tax returns will be due soon. The 2008 tax year will officially close Dec. 31, with highly motivated people able to file their tax returns beginning Jan. 1.

Tax returns must be post-marked by April 15. This year, April 15 is a Wednesday and returns must be marked by midnight to avoid fees and penalties. Taxpayers can file their return by mail or electronically any time between Jan. 1 and April 15.

The Army has a program known as the "tax center," where Soldiers volunteer to help other service members and retirees prepare tax returns. The biggest advantage of using the tax center is that the assistance and knowledge is free for all service members and retirees. Soldiers who were trained by the Internal Revenue Service will operate the Fort Jackson Tax Center.

More information about the tax center and instructions on getting taxes prepared will be published in the *Leader* in January. However, while on leave, take a few moments to think about who will prepare your taxes and when you will file. Here are a couple of issues that might be important to you as you consider coming to the Fort Jackson Tax Center:

What do I need to bring to have my taxes prepared at the Tax Center?

Some of the information needed includes, but is not limited to, a valid Social Security card for all family members, federal wage forms (W-2s), interest statements, investment dividend forms, and the previous year's tax returns. Other important information may include bank

or investment statements and any other income statements. In addition, homeowners should provide information relating to property taxes and interest paid on their homes and mortgages.

What if I don't file by the deadline?

If a return is filed after April 15, the IRS may assess late fees and interest due on the taxpayer's federal taxes. If late fees, penalties and interest are assessed, the taxpayer still has the option of requesting in writing that fees and interest to be withheld. The IRS has sole discretion to grant a withholding of fees and interest. A better option would be to file before the deadline, or file for an extension.

How do I file for an extension?

If taxes absolutely cannot be filed before April 15, IRS Form 4868 is available from the IRS Web site, www.irs.gov, and allows a taxpayer to request a six-month extension to file. Service members who are concentrating on training and mission requirements may want to file an extension if they feel that they may need extra time. An extension is also a good idea, even if the taxpayer plans to file near the deadline, to ensure protection from additional fees and interest. There is no penalty involved in filing an extension, and once an extension is filed, the taxpayer may file at any date before the extension deadline.

Can someone else file my taxes for me?

A person other than the taxpayer can be given the authority to file. This is especially appealing and useful to service members married to non-service members, who are filing or plan on filing a joint return. Although most

Operation Hours

Fort Jackson's Legal Assistance Office, located in the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, 9475 Kershaw Road, is open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Thursday.

For appointments, call 751-4287. The office accepts walk-ins for living wills, health care powers of attorney and durable powers of attorney, 1:30-4 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Walk-ins are welcome for general legal questions and are accepted 9-11 a.m., Thursdays.

general powers-of-attorney grant an agent the authority to file tax returns, the IRS has a specific Form 2848, which is also available online from the IRS. Form 2848 does not require notarization and is the preferred power-of-attorney by the IRS for federal tax returns.

Similar to all powers-of-attorney, it is important to completely trust a person whom is given the authority to act in another's name. In granting this power to someone, remember, the taxpayer will remain responsible for the tax return filed by his or her agent.

The tax center at Fort Jackson will open in mid January and stay open through April 15, and serves service members on active duty, retirees and all others who are eligible.

The center will have extended business hours in January to accommodate everyone wishing to file an early tax return and in April for those trying to beat the deadline. For more information, look in the *Leader* as well as advertisements on post. The tax center will be located in Building 2441.

CHALKBOARD

Survey gauges parents', students' satisfaction

Department of Defense Education Activity

The Department of Defense Education Activity will administer its biennial customer satisfaction survey through Feb. 28.

The CSS provides valuable feedback to DoDEA from its most important customers — students and parents — about the quality of education it provides and areas needing improvement.

The 2008 DoDEA customer satisfaction survey represents a departure from tradition in that the survey will be administered to students in grades 4-12 and sponsors for each child enrolled in DoD schools from Pre-kindergarten/SureStart through 12th grade.

As with previous customer satisfaction surveys, participation remains voluntary, and maximum participation is encouraged to obtain reliable and valid data.

Historically, teachers, educational support staff, students in grades 4-12 and sponsors for each child enrolled in DoD schools from Pre-kindergarten through 12th

grade were asked to complete the CSS.

This year, parents and students will participate in the CSS while DoDEA administrators, teachers and educational support staff will participate in a separate survey, the DoDEA employee satisfaction survey, to be administered in March. As with the CSS, participation in the DoDEA employee satisfaction survey is voluntary, and maximum participation is encouraged to obtain reliable and valid data.

The surveys were developed through a review process of various groups, area offices, superintendents, principals, education directorate staff members at the DoDEA headquarters, and external sources such as DMDC.

Some questions were adapted from the Phi Delta Kappa/Gallup Poll of the Public's Attitudes Toward Schools with additional DoDEA-specific questions.

The 2008 CSS contains more parent and student-specific questions, particularly with regard to guidance and counseling.

The surveys take approximately 20 minutes to complete and are available online at www.dodea.edu (click on the CSS graphic link).

Parents who do not have access to the Internet should contact their child's school to determine other alternatives, such as using the school's computers.

Information derived from the surveys will be used to improve planning efforts at all levels throughout DoDEA.

Schools, districts and areas will use the survey results to gain insight into the satisfaction levels of sponsors and students, which is one of many measures used for future planning of programs and services DoDEA offers.

The survey results will also be used to monitor the DoDEA community strategic plan, which contains the strategic direction for DoDEA through 2011.

For more information on the CSS, please call the school office at 782-1772 (Pierce Terrace Elementary School) or 787-6815 (C.C. Pinckney Elementary School) or visit the DoDEA Web site at <http://www.dodea.edu/>.

Fort Jackson Schools

Winter break is from Dec. 22 to Jan. 2. Students return to class Jan. 5.

Richland District One

A **School Board Meeting** is scheduled for 7 p.m., Tuesday at the district office. Parents are welcome.

Winter break is from Dec. 22 to Jan. 2. Students return to class Jan. 5.

Richland District Two

Elementary interim reports issued until Friday.

A **School Board Meeting** is scheduled for 7 p.m., Tuesday at the district auditorium. Parents are welcome.

Middle/high school interim reports issued Dec. 11-16.

Winter break is from Dec. 22 to Jan. 2. Students return to class Jan. 5.

Expanded choice and magnet events will be hosted until Jan. 30 at schools throughout the district. Visit www.richland.org/content.aspx?id=177 online for more information.

Dent Middle School Civil Air Patrol is asking for **old BDUs/ACUs** for its program. Call 699-2750 ext. 72007 for more information.

Fort Jackson Homeschoolers

A **get-together** for home-schooled students is planned for 11 a.m., Tuesdays for various activities. For more information, call 419-0760.

The South Carolina Association of Independent Home Schools is offering a **free get-started workshop** for those interested in home schooling 7-8:30 p.m., Dec. 11 at 930 Knox Abbott Drive, Cayce. For more information or to register, call 454-0427 or e-mail SCAIHS@scaihs.org.

College

The South Carolina Commission on Higher Education has launched a **college information hotline** for students and families. For up-to-date college information, call (877) 349-7183, 5:30-8:30 p.m., Tuesdays-Thursdays.



Announcements

Partnerships in Education is sponsoring a movie contest for middle- and high-school students titled "Real Life at My School." The purpose is to introduce new students from military families to area schools. Details and applications are available in the Child, Youth and School Services Central Enrollment Office or online at http://fortjacksonmwr.com/school_liaison. Submissions are due Jan. 7.

Soldiers may request to **remain in a current duty assignment** until his or her high school student graduates. To make the request, Soldiers must submit DA Form 4187 through his or her chain of command to Personnel Command. For more information, call (703) 325-

4422/5191.

The CYS Middle School and Teen Program is seeking feedback about a proposed shuttle bus that will run between the youth center and some local high schools, Tuesdays through Fridays. The service would be free. Anyone interested in the shuttle should call 751-6387 or e-mail Marilyn.Carver@us.army.mil.

Scholarships

Scholarships for Military Children, www.militaryscholar.org, applications due Feb. 18.

Major General James Ursano Scholarship Fund for Dependent Children, www.aerhq.org, applications due March 1.

Bernard Brown Space Camp Scholarship for students in sixth through ninth grades, www.militarychild.org/space-camp.asp, applications due March 10.

Editor's Note: For more information on Army School Liaison Services, call 751-6150 or e-mail Ruth.C.Russell@us.army.mil.

FIRST RESPONDER



The following are incidents compiled from reports, complaints or information received from the Fort Jackson Provost Marshal Office.

The incidents reflected are not an adjudication attesting to the guilt or innocence of any person and are provided for informational and reflective purposes only.

Lt. Col. Ronald F. Taylor

Director, Emergency Services/Provost
Marshal

Sgt. Maj. Allen Taylor Jr.

Provost Sergeant Major

Billy Forrester

Fire Chief

Cases of the Week

A Soldier was charged with disorderly conduct and assault of a police officer Nov. 15. The Soldier's sergeant called Military Police after the Soldier refused to follow orders. MPs escorted the Soldier to Moncrief Army Community Hospital for a mental evaluation when the Soldier spat at the police officers. The Soldier was taken to PMO, processed and released to her unit.

A Soldier was arrested on a warrant issued by the Richland County Sheriff Department for assault and battery with intent to kill. The incident happened off post and no further information is available.

No one was injured in a traffic accident at Gate 2 Nov. 22. The civilian driver of a bus

struck a barrier, causing scratches to the right side of the bus. The driver was issued a ticket for failure to judge proper clearance.

A traffic accident in the parking lot of the Main Post Exchange resulted in a dislodged rear bumper Nov. 21. A civilian driver struck another vehicle while backing out of a parking space. The driver was issued a ticket for improper backing.

Provost Marshal's Tip of the Week

Many people have cars with keyless entry remotes. If the remote can also activate the car's alarm system, it may be used for other purposes as well.

Put your car keys beside your bed at night. If you hear a noise outside your home or someone trying to get in your house, just press the panic button for your car. The alarm will be set off, and the horn will continue to sound until either you turn it off or the car battery dies.

And remember to carry your keys while walking to your car in a parking lot. The alarm can work the same way there.

If you or a family member has a health problem, the keyless remote could assist in getting you help in time by pressing the panic button.

crimestoppers
1-888-559-TIPS
www.midlandscrimestoppers.com



ANTITERRORISM AWARENESS

EDUCATION IS KEY TO COMBATING TERRORISM



- AT Awareness Training is required annually and is conducted online or by a unit AT officer.
- Personnel must receive a briefing before traveling overseas for deployment, PCS or leave.

SPORTS/FITNESS

Army counting on defense to stop Navy

Army Athletic Communications

WEST POINT, N.Y. — One of the most storied rivalries in all of sports resumes Saturday when the Army-Navy contest will be played in Philadelphia for the 81st time in the 109 games between the two service academies.

It is the fifth time that Lincoln Financial Field will host the rivalry. CBS will broadcast the game to a national audience for the 13th consecutive season. Kickoff is scheduled for noon.

Army is looking to snap a three-game losing streak after a 30-3 defeat at Rutgers Nov. 22. The Black Knights' last victory came Oct. 25 against Louisiana Tech.

The annual rivalry game will feature two of the most prolific rushing offenses in the nation. The Black Knights, in their first season running the option since 1999, boast the country's ninth-rated rushing offense at 254 yards per game. The Midshipmen lead the nation, averaging 292 yards per contest.

The two teams are 118th and 119th out of 119 Division I Football Bowl Subdivision teams in passing offense. The Mid-

shipmen average 63 yards per game through the air while Army throws for only 45 yards per game.

The Army defense is hoping for a repeat performance of last year's game when the Black Knights held Navy, the nation's number-one running team at nearly 350 yards per game, to 287 yards on the ground and forced the Midshipmen to punt a season-high six times.

The 2008 Black Knights rank 32nd in the nation against the run, allowing 124 yards per game.

No team has gained more than 184 yards rushing against Army this season, and the Black Knights have held three foes to under 100 yards.

In its first service academy game this season, Army held Air Force, the nation's sixth-ranked rushing offense to 142 yards, its second-lowest output of the season.

Navy enters the 109th meeting between the rivals with a 7-4 record. The Midshipmen have already accepted a bid to play in the inaugural EagleBank Bowl, which will be played in Washington, D.C. Dec. 20. It will be the program's sixth straight bowl



Photo by Eric Bartelt, Army News Service

Senior Fullback Collin Mooney will lead the Army Black Knights against the Naval Academy Saturday in Philadelphia. Mooney, who leads Army in rushing with 1,285 yards, needs just 54 yards in the game to become Army's single-season rushing leader.

game.

While Army enjoyed the upper hand against Navy in the 1990s, Navy has turned the tide in recent years.

The Midshipmen have captured nine of

the last 11 meetings, including the past six, to grab a 52-49-7 advantage.

The Midshipmen's current six-game winning streak is the longest in the series by either academy.

171st wins Turkey Bowl



Photo by Daniel Terrill

Mark Clark, with the Soldier Support Institute, takes off upfield during the second annual Turkey Bowl between the 171st Blackhawks and the Soldier Support Institute at Hilton Field Nov. 25. The 171st won, 19-7.

Sports Briefs

Sports Banquet

The Sports Banquet is scheduled for 11:30 a.m., Wednesday at the MG Robert B. Solomon Center. For more information, call 751-3096.

Volunteer Cheerleading Coaches

Volunteer youth cheerleading coaches are needed. Experience is desired, but not mandatory.

Volunteers get the "coaches discount," when their children also play sports — 100 percent for the first child; 50 percent for siblings. For more information or to volunteer, call 751-5040.

Youth Basketball, Cheerleading

Registration will be accepted until Monday for youth basketball and cheerleading. The season for both runs December through February.

Practices will be once a week for 4-7 year olds and twice a week for 8-18 year olds. Games are played Saturdays.

The fee for basketball is \$40 for the first child and \$36 for siblings and includes a jersey, shorts and a trophy. The fee for cheerleading is \$30 for the first child and \$27 for siblings and includes a skirt, a top and a trophy.

'Hoop Shoot' Contest

The Elks National Free Throw "Hoop Shoot" Contest is set for 4:30-7:30 p.m., Dec. 11 at the Youth Center. The contest is open for children 8-13 years old. Winners will advance through district, state, regional and then national competitions. For more information, call 751-5040.

**For youth sports, call 751-5610/5040;
For golf information, call 787-4437/4344;
For sports information, call 751-3096.**